

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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TO SECDEF WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 3625

JCS WASHDC

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USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0253

E.O. 11652: GDS:12-31-80

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJ: INTERCONNECTION OF NATO AND US COMMUNICATIONS

REF A. USNATO 6210

B. USNATO 3674

C. USNATO 2312

SUMMARY: DISCUSSIONS WITH SHAPE AND NICSMA LEAD TO CONCLUSION THAT SHAPE SHOULD BE DESIGNATED ACTION AGENCY IN PARA 2 OF REF A IN LIEU OF NICSMA. ACTION REQUEST: APPROVAL OF SHAPE AS NATO ACTION AGENCY AND RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL IN USNATO 6210 TO COMPLETE INTERCONNECT STUDY AND INITIATE INTERCONNECT BY NOV 74.
END SUMMARY

1. BACKGROUND. DPC DIRECTED STUDY ON POSSIBILITY OF INTERCONNECTING US AND NATO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN 1968. SINCE THAT TIME SHAPE (ON BEHALF OF NATO) AND EUCOM (ON BEHALF OF US) HAVE BEEN PREPARING STUDY AND REPORT WAS NEARING COMPLETION END OF
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1972. CURRENT STAGE (AWAITING WASHINGTON APPROVAL) INCLUDES RECOMMENDATION TO PROPOSE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL PERMIT ELECTRICAL INTERCONNECTION OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF NEAR-COLLOCATED US DCS AND NATO "ACE HIGH" COMMUNICATION SITES. BY REF C, WE RECOMMENDED THAT WASHINGTON AGREE TO COMPLETION OF STUDY ON AN

EXPEDITED BASIS.

2. SINCE TRANSMISSION OF REF A, WE HAVE HAD PRELIMINARY AND EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WITH SHAPE (BGEN JACKSON), NICSMA (LTGEN LOTS AND AIR COMMODORE IMRIE), USEUCOM (CAPT QUANSTROM), DCA EUROPE (COL CAMPEN) AND DCFO (COL LAFAVE) ON METHODS OF PROCEEDING WITH LIMITED INTERCONNECTION OF NATO "ACE HIGH" COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND DCS.

3. BASED ON OUR DISCUSSIONS, WE BELIEVE THAT SHAPE SHOULD APPEAR AS ACTION AGENCY IN PARA 2 OF REF A IN LIEU OF NICSMA FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. SHAPE WILL RETAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR OPERATING AND MAINTAINING (O&M) "ACE HIGH" SYSTEM UNTIL THERE IS A FIRST PHASE OF NICS, NOW ESTIMATED IN 1976/77 TIME PERIOD. AS FIRST PHASE OF NICS IS COMPLETED, ONLY A PORTION OF "ACE HIGH" CAPACITY WILL BE USED FOR NICS. EVENTUALLY, "ACE HIGH" WILL CEASE TO EXIST AS SEPARATE SYSTEM AND WILL BE PART OF, AND INDISTINGUISHABLE FROM, NICS.

B. SHAPE REP AGREED THAT SHAPE, AS NATO AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR "ACE HIGH" O&M, SHOULD TAKE LEAD ON BEHALF OF NATO FOR COMPLETING INTERCONNECT STUDY, FOR INCLUDING FUNDS FOR INTERCONNECT IN INFRASTRUCTURE SLICE, FOR PREPARING AND DEFENDING TYPE "B" ESTIMATE, AND TOGETHER WITH US, FOR INITIATING AND COMPLETING IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERCONNECTION AT MUTUALLY AGREED LOCATIONS.

4. PROVIDED THAT SELECTED INTERCONNECT SITES DO NOT CONFLICT WITH NICS DIMENSIONING FOR INTERIM SWITCHED VOICE NETWORK, NICSMA HAS INDICATED SUPPORT FOR ABOVE PROPOSED APPROACH.

5. REQUEST WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF SHAPE AS NATO ACTION AGENCY AND RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL IN USNATO 6210 THAT INTERCONNECT STUDY BE ACCELERATED IN ORDER TO INITIATE INTERCONNECT BY NOV 74.
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